

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 40278 Agenda Number 11.

Meeting Date: 2/26/2015 Department: Parks and Recreation

Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a Parkland Improvement and Land Use Agreement with the Lonestar Soccer Club of Austin in connection with the use of the Slaughter Creek Fields.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no anticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Kimberly McNeeley, (512) 974-6722; April Shaw, (512) 974-6716.
Boards and Commission Action:	To be considered by the Parks and Recreation Board on February 24, 2015.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) has traditionally made City of Austin land and/or facilities available for use by privately organized sports groups that serve the public through sports, fitness, and recreational programs that promote the well-being of Austin's youth. These partnerships have been formalized through various contractual agreements. Through these agreements, both parties have mutually benefitted in the following manner:

- The sports group obtains the use of a facility on a regularly scheduled basis;
- City expenses are reduced by sharing maintenance and capital improvement responsibilities; and
- The fields remain accessible to the public as open space during non-scheduled times.

The Lonestar Soccer Club of Austin shares an interest with PARD in providing recreational programs for Austin's youth and has worked cooperatively with the department for over 25 years by offering its youth programs at the seven multipurpose fields at Slaughter Creek Metropolitan Park, a PARD facility. Working with PARD, the organization has identified needed improvements to the ball fields that would not only benefit its program participants but the public at large. The proposed improvements would be funded through donations that the Lonestar Soccer Club has

obtained from various individuals.

Per the proposed agreement, Lonestar would be responsible, at its sole cost, for the design, permitting, bidding and construction of the improvements. The improvements would be installed and constructed within the park in accordance with a predetermined time line and according to the plans, specifications, site plan and construction documents, which will be reviewed and approved by the City prior to the start of construction. In addition, Lonestar would be required to hire licensed and insured construction professionals, including but not limited to designer, architect, contractor, etc. that meet the minimum City standards and that are approved in advance by the City.

Proposed improvements to fields at Slaughter Creek Metropolitan Park include, but are not limited to:

- Installation of a new irrigation system at various fields;
- Leveling of fields;
- Installation of limestone boulders along parking lots and roadways to prohibit vehicular access; and
- Installation of new sod.

The proposed term of the agreement would be an initial term of five years with two five-year extension options.

Throughout the term of the agreement, Lonestar Soccer Club would provide year-round maintenance of the fields in accordance with the City fields maintenance standards and would assume the utilities costs. The agreement will provide that during the term of the agreement the City's use fees will be waived in accordance with City Code Section 8-1-83 (B).

Moreover, Lonestar Soccer Club would have first priority right to use the multipurpose fields, with the exception of Field 1, which the City would retain first priority right to use at all times for public use.

Upon direction from the Austin City Council, the City of Austin, through its Parks and Recreation Department, is prepared to negotiate and execute a Parkland Improvement and Land Use Agreement with the Lonestar Soccer Club of Austin that would allow Lonestar Soccer to proceed with the proposed improvements.